

dedication to our country and our State during the many years he has served. I have enjoyed working with him on a variety of issues and appreciate the compassion and understanding he has shown to the men and women under his command, especially during these very challenging times for our Nation and our military.

His efforts to recruit, train, equip, and mobilize South Dakotans for service have been critical to the Guard's mission accomplishment, as has his commitment to care for our State's veterans. His outstanding service on behalf of our State's service men and women is appreciated; he has set an exceptional example for military personnel to follow.

I commend him for all he has done for the people of South Dakota. His dedicated service to our grateful Nation will not be forgotten.●

TRIBUTE TO WGNO-TV, NEW ORLEANS

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, today I wish to speak about a television station in my hometown of New Orleans. As all our local news media have, WGNO-TV/ABC 26 has been there through thick and through thin, telling Louisiana's story of recovery following Hurricane Katrina. But often missed as you watch the local news broadcasts and read the local papers is that the story of rebuilding and recovery these journalists are telling is as much their own story as it is the community's.

After many years broadcasting from New Orleans' World Trade Center, WGNO moved into a new studio facility at the New Orleans Centre, near the Louisiana Superdome, just a few weeks before Katrina hit. Forced out of the space by the approaching storm, they broadcast their coverage from ABC station WBRZ-TV in Baton Rouge, as well as various locations on the road, reporting from the heart of the devastation.

When they moved back to New Orleans to begin telling the story of rebuilding, they told it from a facility all too familiar to their viewers—a set of trailers parked behind the Superdome. A makeshift studio and control room were assembled in part with equipment procured on the Internet. Months later, after a decision was made to not reopen the New Orleans Centre, effectively evicting the station, WGNO moved back into the World Trade Center facility they had vacated in July 2005.

Tonight, WGNO formally celebrates the opening of a brand-new broadcast center in Metairie, Louisiana. Their first broadcast from their new home was on August 29—the 2-year anniversary of Katrina—and I was proud to be their first in-studio guest.

It took 2 years for the hard-working staff of WGNO to move into a permanent new home. For many of my constituents, it will be much longer. But one guiding light will be, as it has been since the storm first struck, the dedi-

cated reporting of our local news organizations—not just WGNO, but also their colleagues at WWL-TV, WVUE-TV and WDSU-TV, our local radio stations, the Times Picayune and our vibrant weekly community papers, and all the others who have stayed with us every minute of these difficult 2 years. Even as many of their own reporters, engineers and other personnel have faced their own tremendous challenges, having in many cases lost homes and loved ones, they have continued to be a voice for our great city and State.

I congratulate WGNO as they celebrate their new home, and thank them and all of our local news media for their continued service.●

HONORING LOOK'S GOURMET FOOD COMPANY, INC.

● Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I celebrate the recent inclusion of a small business from my home State of Maine on the Inc. 5,000 list of this Nation's fastest-growing private companies. Look's Gourmet Food Company, Inc., of Whiting has been a dominant player in the canned food industry since its inception in 1917. Notably, during the past 3 years, the company has grown over 200 percent, garnering the attention of Inc., a magazine that reports on small business and entrepreneurship issues. Companies on the list were ranked based on their percentage of revenue growth between 2003 and 2006. Moreover, all the firms had to be based in the United States, independent, and privately held. Of particular distinction is that Look's Gourmet Food Company placed 41st among 160 food and beverage companies subcategory. This is truly an honor for the State of Maine—especially for downeast Maine.

When Mike Cote became the owner of the former A.M. Look Canning Company in April 2003, he set out to increase sales and promote a positive view of canned seafood. He began by changing the seafood processor's name to Look's Gourmet Food Company and redesigning the labels on the cans. Since that time, sales have tripled, and the company has acquired new equipment to keep up with growing demand. In addition, through the community development block grant program, Look's has purchased a warehouse in the nearby former Cutler Navy base dedicated to packing and shipping. A business that continues to grow, Look's currently employs 21 full-time workers.

Look's Gourmet Food Company boasts a line of over 30 products including: whole Maine lobster meat, Maine cherrystone clams, clam chowder, lobster bisque, and clam juice. Look's also cans four varieties of beans, a traditional downeast Maine dessert known as Indian pudding, and more recently, has added kippers, herring, and mackerel to its seafood repertoire. The company produces small, 60-gallon batches of its chowders and bisques, while re-

fusing to use additives or preservatives, rendering an unrivaled product. What makes Look's so unique is that it is the last remaining multiproduct food cannery in Maine, and one of just three food canneries in the State.

Forming unique partnerships, Look's teams up with other local companies to produce high-quality foods. For instance, Look's has five different sauces that it uses when packing its herring fillets, including one made using products from Raye's Mustard which is made locally in Eastport. Additionally, to bolster another small business, Look's gives discarded mussel shells to Artful Wares, a Maine enterprise that makes silverware handles from crushed shells, thereby reducing waste and ensuring Artful Wares a supply of shells.

In listing Look's Gourmet Food on its 5,000 list, Inc. noted that Look's is growing due to its use of all-natural ingredients, as well as the sale of products in both specialty and mainstream grocery stores. Inc. also points to Look's export business to Japan and its desire to sell in Europe. This proactive business model has benefitted Look's as well, and the company has certainly earned the recognition it has received. I congratulate Mike Cote and everyone at Look's Gourmet Food for their exceptional achievement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, AS RECEIVED DURING RECESS OF THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2007—PM 24

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a